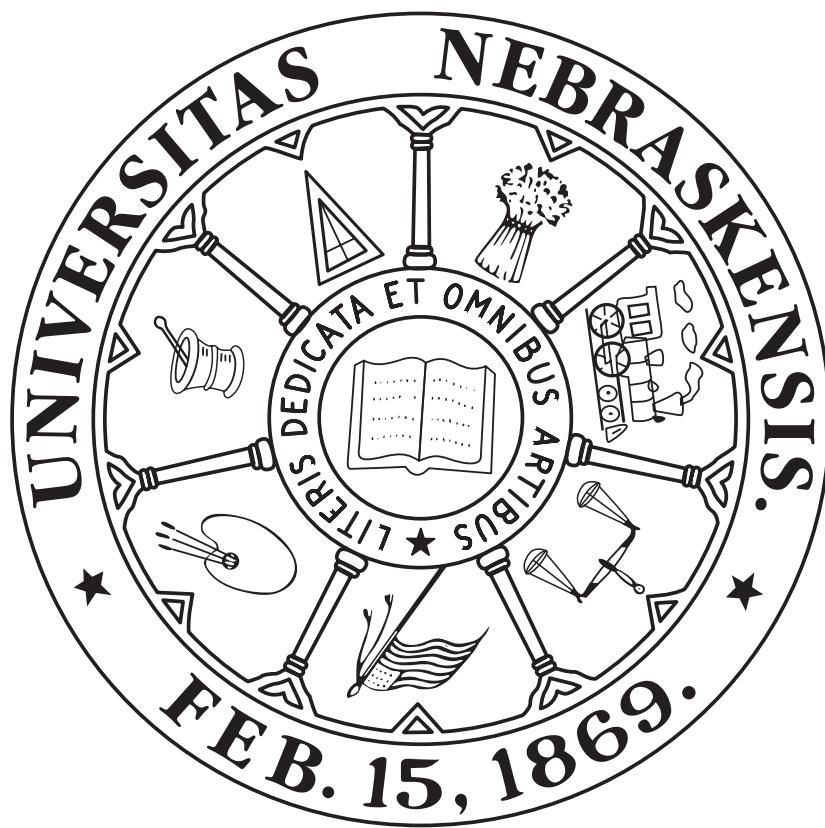
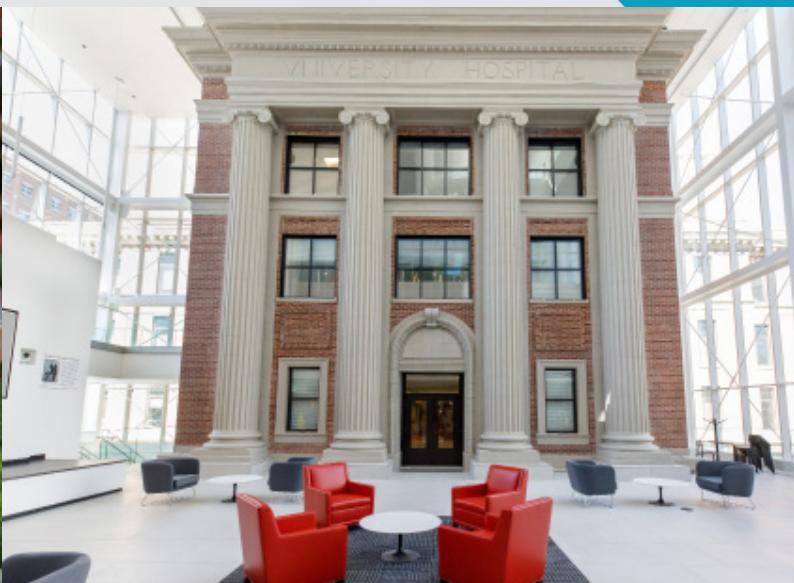


Commencement Program



University of Nebraska Medical Center
Friday, December 20, 2024



ORDER OF EXERCISE

December 20, 2024
Omaha, Nebraska

H. Dele Davies, MD, MS, MHCM, Interim Chancellor, Presiding

PROCESSIONAL: Pomp and CircumstanceEdward Elgar
(The audience will stand during the Processional)

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION**HARLAN RUSSELL SAYLES
(The audience will remain standing) Graduate College

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

REGENT'S WELCOME

J.G. ELLIOTT AWARDKENDRA SCHMID, PhD
Interim Dean, Graduate Studies

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES/CERTIFICATESH. DELE DAVIES, MD, MS, MHCM
Interim Chancellor

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS/CERTIFICATESBY THE DEANS

BACHELOR DEGREE/CERTIFICATE:

College of NursingLEPAINE SHARP-McHENRY, DNP, RN, FACDONA
Dean, College of Nursing

College of Allied Health ProfessionsKYLE P. MEYER, PhD, MS, PT, FASAHP
Dean, College of Allied Health Professions

MASTER DEGREE/CERTIFICATE:

College of NursingLEPAINE SHARP-McHENRY, DNP, RN, FACDONA
Dean, College of Nursing

College of Allied Health ProfessionsKYLE P. MEYER, PhD, MS, PT, FASAHP
Dean, College of Allied Health Professions

College of Public HealthALI S. KHAN, MD, MPH, MBA
Dean, College of Public Health

Graduate CollegeKENDRA SCHMID, PhD
Interim Dean, Graduate Studies

DOCTORATE DEGREE:

College of NursingLEPAINE SHARP-McHENRY, DNP, RN, FACDONA
Dean, College of Nursing

Graduate CollegeKENDRA SCHMID, PhD
Interim Dean, Graduate Studies

CLOSING REMARKSH. DELE DAVIES, MD, MS, MHCM
Interim Chancellor

BENEDICTION**HARLAN RUSSELL SAYLES
(The audience will stand) Graduate College

RECESSIONAL(The audience will remain standing)

* Please remain seated during the "Conferral of Degrees." Graduate's names will be announced for the "Presentation of Diplomas."

** Student Initiated

Physician Assistant Professional Oath

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

I will hold as my primary responsibility, the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.

I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence and justice.

I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.

I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.

I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.

I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.

I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.

I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.

I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.

I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.

I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.

International Pledge for Nurses

In full knowledge of the obligations I am undertaking, I promise to care for the sick with all the skill and understanding I possess, without regard to race, creed, color, politics or social status, sparing no effort to conserve life, to alleviate suffering and to promote health.

I will respect at all times the dignity and religious beliefs of the patients under my care, holding in confidence all personal information entrusted to me, and refrain from any action which might endanger life or health.

I will endeavor to keep my professional knowledge and skill at the highest level and to give loyal support and cooperation to all members of the health team.

I will do my utmost to honor the international code of ethics applied to nursing and to uphold the integrity of the professional nurse.

Explanation of Physician's Oath

The Declaration of Geneva was promulgated by the World Medical Association in 1948. It has its roots in the great moral traditions that go back to ancient Greek Hippocratic medicine. It also seriously reflects the times in which it was written. That was immediately after World War II when the crimes of men against humanity were being revealed through such things at the Nuremberg Trial.

Graduate Student Oath

I faithfully pledge to uphold my professional integrity by maintaining the highest standard of ethics and quality in my pursuit of academic and professional excellence.

I will uphold an unwavering commitment to report and interpret my research or professional findings with steadfast honesty and clarity.

I pledge to share openly and generously, my discoveries, obstacles and triumphs. I will work to improve our world through communication with peers and teaching students of all ages.

I will strive to be continually conscious of the responsibility that accompanies the endowment of my degree.

It is with tremendous pride and enthusiasm that I seal my commitment to advance humanity through extraordinary biomedical research, teaching or provision of service.

Physician's Oath

(Modified Declaration of Geneva)

Now, being admitted to the profession of medicine, I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the service of humanity. I will practice medicine with conscience and dignity; the health and life of my patient will be my first consideration. I will maintain the utmost respect for human life, never using my knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity.

I will hold in confidence all that my patient confides in me. I will not permit race, religion, nationality, party, politics or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient. I will follow that method of treatment which I consider to be of greatest benefit, and never hesitate to confer with my colleagues in my patient's behalf. I will learn to distinguish when to treat aggressively and when to restrain my hand in the face of greater power.

I will maintain the honor and noble traditions of the medical profession. I will recognize hard-won scientific gains, and share my knowledge with those who follow. I will treat with respect all others in my profession. These promises I make freely and upon my honor.

J.G. (JACK) ELLIOTT AWARD

Vicki Hamm

Vicki Hamm is honored with the J.G. Elliott Award for her decades of service to her fellow Nebraskans, notably in the areas of health care, educational opportunity, and community health. For nearly 50 years, Hamm served as the expert on graduate medical education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She was a resource and friend to generations of house officers who made UNMC their home for residency and fellowship training. These physicians went on to touch the lives of their fellow Nebraskans and others, enriching our state and the world beyond.



Hamm was described as “the lifeblood of graduate medical education” at UNMC. She served as its friendly face and first phone call. She mentored and guided the careers of countless house officers and was the go-to person for more than 560 at UNMC at a time.

Hamm managed all internal reviews for the training programs as well as budget, orientation, International Medical Graduates sponsorship, National Resident Matching Program and Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education institutional and program reviews.

The late Robert Wigton, MD, once said that when he became assistant dean for graduate medical education in 1976, his first action was to hire Vicki Hamm. It proved to be his best decision, he later said.

She was praised as street smart and people smart – “emotionally intelligent.” She truly cared for the people she worked with, and they knew it. They also knew her skills and expertise were beyond reproach.

“Everyone knows that Vicki is the person who knows everything,” said Chandra Are, MBBS, upon her retirement in 2022. She was hailed as a national expert in the field, authoring “The Graduate Medical Education Committee Handbook,” published in 2008. By having an impact on these physicians at a crucial time in their careers, she had an impact on Nebraska and beyond.

Hamm is a native of Cook, Nebraska. She joined UNMC in 1975 after graduating from the Lincoln School of Commerce. She has two children. Hamm was a longtime official for high school volleyball matches and was honored as an over-35 All-American player herself. She was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and earned UNMC’s Gold U award, the highest honor for medical center employees.

The J.G. Elliott Award is given annually to an individual who has made significant contributions to medicine and health programs for the state of Nebraska. It is awarded in memory of Jack Elliott, who served on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents for 20 years until his death in 1974. The University is proud to present this award to Vicki Hamm.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

COLLEGE OF NURSING

December 20, 2024

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Raghad Ahmed Abdulhasan, <i>Lincoln</i>	Robyn Joann Handley, <i>Omaha</i> High Distinction	Hannah Meyer, <i>Lincoln</i>
Peneen Kareem Al Rubaye, <i>Lincoln</i>	Jamie Denise Himes, <i>Magnolia, TX</i>	Zachary Ryan Miller, <i>Kearney</i>
Danelle E. Arleque, <i>Lincoln</i> High Distinction	Allison Marie Hinrichs, <i>Lincoln</i>	Ryah F. Owens, <i>Central City</i>
Cecilia Danielle Beahm, <i>Hastings</i>	Sean James Hummel, <i>Waverly</i> Distinction	Brian Douglas Petersen, <i>Valley</i>
LaAnnecia Aurora-Lynn Bergman, <i>Omaha</i>	Bryana Penelope Jackson, <i>Council Bluffs, IA</i> High Distinction	Nataly Phommavanh, <i>Dakota City</i> High Distinction
Mason Derek Bethea, <i>Blanding, UT</i> Distinction	Dylan Andrew Johnson, <i>Columbus</i> High Distinction	Carli Celeste Pofahl, <i>Kearney</i>
Amy Beth Boling, <i>Valparaiso</i>	Patricia Marie Kaczmarek, <i>Omaha</i> Highest Distinction	Bailey James Premer, <i>Kearney</i> High Distinction
Katherine Carey, <i>Omaha</i>	Madison Nicole Kerk, <i>Lemoyne</i>	Lauren Robyn Rairigh, <i>Gering</i>
Taylor Marie Carter, <i>Omaha</i> Highest Distinction	Grace Renee Koubek, <i>Maywood</i>	Amiera Abdulrahman Rayyan, <i>Bellevue</i> Distinction
Hannah Clarkson, <i>Norfolk</i> Distinction	Ericka Lopez, <i>Omaha</i>	Ian Robert Rich, <i>Plainfield, IL</i> Highest Distinction
Braedyn Rebecca Cooper, <i>Omaha</i> Distinction	Jay Russel Lorts, <i>West Des Moines, IA</i> Highest Distinction	Natalie Esmeralda Rojo, <i>Omaha</i> Highest Distinction
Sophia Elizabeth Daily, <i>Omaha</i>	Shane Mandery, <i>Lincoln</i>	Ashley Grace Sedlak, <i>Lincoln</i>
Miles John Deheus Judson, <i>Lincoln</i>	Lauren Josefina Mae Mankin, <i>Omaha</i>	Paige Elizabeth Simpson, <i>Grand Island</i>
Chaivey Freeman, <i>Los Angeles, CA</i>	Benjamin Michael Martin, <i>Lincoln</i> Distinction	Joshua John Spomer, <i>Lincoln</i>
Regina Marie Frerichs, <i>Columbus</i>	Rosina Flores McGlothlin, <i>Palmdale, CA</i>	Alyssa Veik, <i>Clay Center</i>
Rosalia Gambino, <i>Bellevue</i> High Distinction	Riley Thomas McNair, <i>Lincoln</i>	Sara Kristine Walford, <i>Fairbury</i> Highest Distinction
Oscar Garcia, <i>Mexico</i>	Lindsey Marie Melnarik, <i>Omaha</i> Highest Distinction	Tanner Loyal Walkowiak, <i>Milford</i>
Austin George, <i>Hershey</i> Highest Distinction		Madison Weichel, <i>Papillion</i> Distinction
		Savannah Corrinne Wiseman, <i>Alvo</i> Distinction

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Janel Rae Barajas, <i>Gordon</i> Jaclyn Bean, <i>Omaha</i>	Ashley Elaine Drevo, <i>Hickman</i> Jiosajandy Garcia-Reyna, <i>Omaha</i> Renee Howell Hutsell, <i>Marquette</i>	Monica R. Mitchell, <i>North Platte</i> Sonya Marie Robison, <i>Wood River</i>
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POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING

Sage Lyle Bailey, <i>Pinedale, WY</i>	Natasha Nicole Kelley-Wise, <i>Kearney</i>	Danica A. Lee, <i>Omaha</i> Stephanie Leigh Reutlinger, <i>Lexington</i>
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DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Erin Elizabeth Courtney, <i>Omaha</i> Katlyn R. Messner, <i>Ogallala</i>	Courtney Munroe, <i>Lincoln</i> Omar Samateh, <i>Bellevue</i>	Catherine Ann Vail, <i>St. Paul</i> Igor Igorevich Volk, <i>Russian Federation</i>
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*Honors may not be final and are subject to change

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL IMAGING & THERAPEUTIC SCIENCES

Jared Nathaniel Denny, *Lincoln*
Highest Distinction

Andrea Kristine Forney,
Pine Island, MN
Highest Distinction

Laverne Ravella Naomi Halliday,
Hartford, CT
Distinction

MASTER OF DIAGNOSTIC CYTOLOGY

Bayan Sadeq Al-Hasan,
Sacramento, CA
High Distinction

Johana Lizbeth Alvarez, *Dallas, TX*
Distinction

Madeline Booms, *Columbus, OH*
Deborah Buster, *Phoenix, AZ*
Alexander Nikolai Figley-Stevens,
Polk City, FL
Claudia Perez Garza, *Dallas, TX*

Savannah Cheyenne Holman,
Fresno, CA
Highest Distinction

Van Lam, *Fresno, CA*
Highest Distinction
Kayla Jean Langer, *Spaulding*
Taylr Mannon, *Mabank, TX*
Distinction
Savanna ReAnn Meeks,
Princeton, TX

Diana Teresa Ramirez Laguna,
Cairo
Juan Antonio Salazar, *Dallas, TX*
Mo'Nasha Alexis Sankey,
Phoenix, AZ
Alicia Spear, *Durham, NC*
Courtney Christine Valeri-Ellis,
Dallas, TX
Highest Distinction

MASTER OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS TEACHING & TECHNOLOGY

Jannelle G. Reynolds, *Kearney*
Highest Distinction

MASTER OF MEDICAL NUTRITION

Erin Noelle Eilers, *Lincoln*
High Distinction

Peyton Elizabeth Hainline, *Omaha*
Highest Distinction

Gretchen Leigh Moll, *Seward*
Highest Distinction

Mckenna Patsios, *Kearney*
High Distinction

Anna Reinschmidt, *Sioux Falls, SD*
High Distinction

Bridget Schroll, *Omaha*
Distinction

Britney Ann Spieler, *Columbus*
Highest Distinction
Emily Anne Thompson, *Groton, SD*
Highest Distinction
Peyton Young, *Omaha*
Distinction

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (continued)

MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Megan Kristine Acosta O'Gara, <i>Jackson</i>	Christopher Griffis, <i>Spring Lake, NC</i>	Natalie Jane Milhouse, <i>Lincoln</i>
Lindsey Nicole Allin, <i>Lee's Summit, MO</i>	Jordan Jeffrey Grooms, <i>York</i>	Halei Moody, <i>Eaton, CO</i>
Alyssa Lynn Anderson, <i>Treynor, IA</i> Distinction	Shelby Ann Gustin, <i>Omaha</i> Distinction	High Distinction
Hailey Jo Bartz, <i>Lincoln</i>	Leah Rae Haak Beck, <i>Valley City, ND</i>	Madeline Zoey Mulder, <i>Ralston</i>
Kathryn Genevieve Botkin, <i>Omaha</i> Highest Distinction	Baileigh Halkett, <i>Humphrey</i> Distinction	High Distinction
Larissa Nicole Bovee, <i>Lincoln</i> Distinction	Sydney Dawn Hampton, <i>Durant, OK</i>	Megan Neilsen, <i>Norfolk</i>
Ngoc-Tran Joanna Bui, <i>Lincoln</i> Distinction	Alexis Ann Heaton, <i>Waverly</i>	Julia Ellis Pechar, <i>Papillion</i>
Austin Burt, <i>Kansas City, MO</i>	Sofia Marie Herrera, <i>Omaha</i>	Sydney Anne Randall, <i>Anoka, MN</i>
Bethany Jean Collins, <i>Grand Island</i>	Payton Hoffman, <i>Windsor, CO</i>	Abigail Christine Reding, <i>Omaha</i>
Madison Mae Connealy, <i>Omaha</i>	Megan Marie Justice, <i>Kaukauna, WI</i>	Madison Shea Reinhart, <i>Phoenix, AZ</i>
Corinn R. Cook, <i>Omaha</i>	Clare Jana Lee Keller, <i>Hastings</i>	Kathrine Rose Ruffalo, <i>Omaha</i>
Rebecca Ann DeBalski, <i>Colorado Springs, CO</i> High Distinction	Kassandra Jean Kent, <i>Hebron</i>	High Distinction
Rebecca Unger DeWitt, <i>Kimballton, IA</i>	Kaci Danna Kirchhoefer, <i>Omaha</i>	Delaney McLane Saucier, <i>Omaha</i>
Mary Margaret Fiala, <i>Ulysses</i>	Dominique Lassen Krzykos, <i>Phoenix, AZ</i>	Kerrigan Beth Shelton, <i>Grand Island</i>
McKenna Marie Flint, <i>North Platte</i>	Leigh Anne Lehmann, <i>Eustis</i>	Molly Sindelar, <i>Elkhorn</i>
Allissa Taylor Flynn, <i>Valley</i>	Ridley Theresa Loree, <i>Eden Prairie, MN</i>	High Distinction
Michaela Marie Fritson, <i>Omaha</i>	Lauren Jeanne Mann, <i>Omaha</i>	Jacob Sorensen, <i>Blair</i>
Mariah Stacy Gann, <i>Callao, MO</i>	Kylie Nicole Masker, <i>Kearney</i> Distinction	Makyela D. Sorensen, <i>Greybull, WY</i>
	Regan Rene Mazour, <i>Marshalltown, IA</i>	Kelly Marie Straub, <i>Omaha</i>
	Sara Ann McGill, <i>Omaha</i> High Distinction	Distinction
	Mary Kathryn McLaughlin, <i>Papillion</i>	Nicole Lee Swartzendruber, <i>Shickley</i>
		Alison Marie Tremayne, <i>Newcastle</i>
		Kelsey Hanna Twilight, <i>Omaha</i>
		Macey Ann Wiebe, <i>Lincoln</i>
		Distinction
		John Michael Wilson, <i>Bath, OH</i>
		Sydney Makhael Wolken, <i>North Platte</i>

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

CERTIFICATE OF SPECIALIZATION

ORTHODONTICS AND DENTOFACIAL ORTHOPEDICS

Hibah Chughtai, DDS
Katherine Lambert Higgins, DMD
Emily Alcy Leach, DMD

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Alexander Burbach,
Port Washington, WI
Bryan Joseph Hess, Bellevue

Suhan Lee, Korea
Chloe Nicole Maye, Bartlesville, OK
Elizabeth Marie Rhodes, Omaha

Jack Christopher Senna, Dublin, CA
Mardo Tarr, Liberia

MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Taylor Andrew Boney, Lincoln
Highest Distinction

Heather Ann Johnson, Alcester, SD
Daniel Wehrmann, Omaha
Distinction

Jayne White, Helena, MO
Highest Distinction

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Rebecca Campbell, Camas, WA
Highest Distinction
Schafer Kathleen Marie
Flowerday,
Lincoln
High Distinction
Mallory Hays, Papillion
Distinction
Jessenia Hincapie, Nebraska City
Lauren Marie Hron, Omaha
Distinction

Sanish Maharjan, Nepal
High Distinction
Katelyn Ann Mitchell, Des Moines,
IA
Jamila Nasir, Omaha
Theresa Quynh Nhu Nguyen,
Omaha
High Distinction

Rachel E. Norton-Turk, Omaha
Distinction
Mona Melvin Periera, India
High Distinction
Robbin Kaye Thomas, Boise, ID
High Distinction
Sarah Darlene Ward, Lexington
Alexandrea Michaela Welch,
Bellevue
Angelica Zarate, Northglenn, CO

GRADUATE COLLEGE*

MASTER OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SCIENCE

Jessica Engen, *Omaha*, BSRST, 2011, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Katherine Anne Harbols, *Kearney*, BSCLS, 2018, University of Nebraska Medical Center

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Mazin T. Abdelghany, *Lebanon*, BS, 2011, McGill University (Canada); MD, 2015, Dartmouth Medical School (NH) – Biostatistics
Hibah Chughtai, *Lincoln*, BS, 2018, Creighton University; DDS, 2022, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Medical Sciences
Kristin Ashley Dickinson, *Gretna* – Medical Sciences
Ghada A. Elmahmudi, *Elkhorn*, MD, 1997, University of Tripoli (Libya) – Immunology, Pathology & Infectious Disease
Richard Jordan Hankins, *Omaha*, BA, 2009, University of Mississippi; MD, 2014, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Medical Sciences
Katherine Lambert Higgins, *Nashua, NH*, BS, 2018, University of Mary Washington (VA); DDM, 2022, University of New England (ME) – Medical Sciences
Mehnaz Tabassum, *Bangladesh*, Bach, 2020, BRAC University (Bangladesh) – Medical Sciences
Alex Van Lent, *Omaha*, BSBS, 2016, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Biostatistics
Shuo Wang, *China*, BS, 2008, University of Science and Technology of China; MS, PhD, 2014, Wayne State University – Medical Sciences

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED HEALTH INFORMATICS

Amanda Marie Stabler, *Norfolk*, BS, 2020, Wayne State College; BSMLS, 2020, University of Nebraska Medical Center

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Weilun Ai, *China*, BM, 2014, Jianghan University (China); Mast, 2017, Capital Medical University (China) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Rima Mohammed Ahmed Al Balushi, *Omaha*, MD, 2009, Shahid Beheshti University (Iran); MPH, 2020, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Health Service & Policy Research
Ryan Thomas Cannady, *Knoxville, TN*, BS, 2017, MS, 2019, MBA, 2020, Murray State University (KY) – Medical Sciences
Luana Janaina de Campos, *Brazil*, Bach, 2013, State University of Western Parana (Brazil) – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Rebecca Anne Drakowski, *Harrisburg, NC*, BS, 2018, North Carolina State University – Medical Sciences
Emily Linda Ferris, *Colchester, CT*, MS, 2021, University of Saint Joseph (CT) – Medical Sciences
Flobater Ihab Gawargi, *East Brunswick, NJ*, BS, 2021, Monmouth University (NJ) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Benjamin Grant Girardo, *Glendale, AZ*, BS, 2017, Northern Arizona University – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Hannah Luree Harris, *Maud, TX*, BS, 2017, Southern Arkansas University – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

GRADUATE COLLEGE*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (continued)

Aaron Alexander Jensen, *Henderson*, BS, 2017, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

Viktoriya Y. Mashinson, *Omaha*, BA, 2007, BS, 2018, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Pharmaceutical Sciences

Kathryn Margaret Muilenburg, *Aurora*, BS, 2019, University of Nebraska - Lincoln - Pharmaceutical Sciences

Satera Ann Yvonne Nelson, *Lincoln*, BA, 2013, BSEHS, 2013, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; MS, 2017, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Medical Sciences

Abiola Abidemi Oladapo, *Nigeria*, Bach, 2011, Lautech Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (Nigeria); MS, 2017, Western Illinois University - Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

Milankumar Jayantibhai Patel, *India*, Bach, 2016, Mast, 2016, Nirma University (India); MS, 2019, Long Island University (NY) - Medical Sciences

Aiden E. Quinn, *Brewster, NY*, BS, 2007, Western Connecticut State University; MA, 2012, Monmouth University (NJ); MA, 2020, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Health Promotion and Behavioral Health

Itidal Mohamad Ali Reslane, *Lebanon*, Bach, 2018, Lebanese International University; MS, 2020, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

Ramia J. Salloom, *Syrian Arab Republic*, BS, 2006, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

Harlan Russell Sayles, *Kearney*, BSEE, 2002, MS, 2007, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Biostatistics

Gwenn Lucille Skar, *Elkhorn*, BSBS, 2007, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; MD, 2011, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Medical Sciences

Sami Vasistha, *Bennington*, BSCS, 2003, BS, 2004, MS, 2008, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Biomedical Infomatics

Kasidy Kay Dobish Weber, *Kearney*, BS, 2019, Creighton University; MS, 2020, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

Elayne Lea Wilson, *Great Falls, MT*, BA, 2003, University of Southern Maine; MS, 2006, Georgetown University (DC) - Medical Sciences

STUDENT PRIZES AND AWARDS

GRADUATE COLLEGE

GRADUATE STUDENT OF DISTINCTION

Weilun Ai, **China**

Rebecca Anne Drakowski, **Harrisburg, NC**

Flobater Ihab Gawargi, **East Brunswick, NJ**

Kajal Kamra, **India**

(August 2024 graduate)

Itidal Mohamad Ali Reslane, **Lebanon**

Heidi Vieira, **Canada**

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

ALPHA ETA NATIONAL ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS HONOR SOCIETY

Savannah Cheyenne Holman, **Fresno, CA**

Sara Ann McGill, **Omaha**

Molly Sindelar, **Elkhorn**

Britney Ann Spieler, **Columbus**

Emily Anne Thompson, **Groton, SD**

PI ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY

Lindsey Nicole Allin, **Lee's Summit, MO**

Bethany Jean Collins, **Grand Island**

McKenna Marie Flint, **North Platte**

Leah Rae Haak Beck, **Valley City, ND**

Kathrine Rose Ruffalo, **Omaha**

Molly Sindelar, **Elkhorn**

Kelly Marie Straub, **Omaha**

John Michael Wilson, **Bath, OH**

Sydney Makhael Wolken, **North Platte**

COLLEGE OF NURSING

IRMA KYLE KRAMER AWARD FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Taylor Marie Carter, **Omaha**

Austin George, **Hershey**

Patricia Marie Kaczmarek, **Omaha**

Jay Russel Lorts, **West Des Moines, IA**

Lindsey Marie Melnarik, **Omaha**

Nataly Phommavanh, **Dakota City**

Natalie Esmeralda Rojo, **Omaha**

Sara Kristine Walford, **Fairbury**

MEMBERS OF GAMMA PI CHAPTER-AT-LARGE, SIGMA THETA TAU

Katherine Carey, **Omaha**
Sophia Elizabeth Daily, **Lincoln**
Rosalia Gambino, **Bellevue**
Austin George, **Hershey**
Robyn Joann Handley, **Omaha**
Sean James Hummel, **Waverly**
Bryana Penelope Jackson, **Council Bluffs, IA**
Patricia Marie Kaczmarek, **Omaha**

Madison Nicole Kerk, **Lemoyne**
Grace Renee Koubek, **Maywood**
Shane Mandery, **Lincoln**
Zachary Ryan Miller, **Kearney**
Rosina Flores McGlothlin, **Palmdale, CA**
Ryah F. Owens, **Central City**
Nataly Phommavanh, **Dakota City**

Carli Celeste Pofahl, **Kearney**
Bailey James Premer, **Kearney**
Lauren Robyn Rairigh, **Gering**
Amiera Abdulrahman Rayyan, **Bellevue**
Joshua John Spomer, **Lincoln**

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE

August 16, 2024

COLLEGE OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Tatiana Ivanovna Korol, *Hickman*
Sara Marie Ramsey, *Bellevue*

Alexander Reese-Newquist, *Lincoln*
Kaylee Linn Stoppkotte, *Chapman*

Krystin Nicole Townsend, *North Platte*
Aisha Malika Wint, *Fayetteville, NC*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Jodi Lakin, *Omaha*

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Sarah M. Eckles-Van Horn, *Lincoln*
Trevor Kuehn, *Minden*

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL IMAGING & THERAPEUTIC SCIENCES

Aundrea Louise Cyrus, *Clay Center*
Distinction

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Chunbo Deng, *China*
Mark Edward Hamill, *Omaha*
Anning Huang, *China*
Yifei Ma, *China*

Mathuri Morgan, *Ellicott City, MD*
Stepfanie Namatama Siyumbwa, *Zimbabwe*
Xizi Sun, *China*

Tiandai Wang, *China*
Ziyi Yuan, *China*
Aisha Zahid, *Omaha*

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Jessica Ann Cleghorn, *Colfax, WI*
High Distinction
Caleb Otto Kuddes, *Elkhorn*
High Distinction
Rrose Sélavy LaMay, *Philadelphia, PA*
Distinction

George Tye Liu, *Odessa, TX*
High Distinction
Mamello Makhele, *Lesotho*
High Distinction
Jonathan Casey Meyer, *Omaha*
Highest Distinction
Tonya Ngotel, *Wymore*

Elma Fernandes Vasconcelos, *Omaha*
Seth C. Weldon, *Minocqua, WI*
Kristin Elizabeth Westmore, *Mukwonago, WI*
High Distinction

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Anthony Blake, *Omaha*
High Distinction
Patrina Lynn White, *Yankton, SD* High Distinction

GRADUATE COLLEGE*

MASTER OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS TEACHING & TECHNOLOGY

Vanessa Elaine Crookshank, *Hastings*
Joseph Ray, *Summersville, WY*

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Aadarsh Khairnar, *India*, Bach, 2020, Savitribai Phule Pune University (India) – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Mohammad Naseem Khan, *India*, Bach, 2017, Jamia Hamdard University (India) – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Shobhit Prajwal Lall, *India*, Bach, 2020, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences (India) – Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Ashley Reid, *Omaha* – BS, 2022, University of Nebraska at Omaha – Medical Physiology
Elizabeth Ann Schmitz, *Dilworth, MN*, BA, BS, 2014, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Cancer Research
Stephen Richard Sobota, *Schuylerville, NY*, BA, BS, 2021, Nebraska Wesleyan University – Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Shweta Arun Wani, *India*, Bach, 2020, Savitribai Phule Pune University (India) – Pharmaceutical Sciences

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Wafaa Nasser Aldhafiri, *Saudi Arabia*, Bach, 2016, King Saud University (Saudi Arabia); MS, 2020, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Abdullah Mohammed Alshehri, *Saudi Arabia*, Bach, 2008, King Khalid University (Saudi Arabia); PharmD, 2014, Western University of Health Sciences (CA) Pharmaceutical Sciences
Sean N. Avedissian, *Omaha*, BS, 2011, University of California-Davis; PharmD, 2015, University of Southern California; MS, 2019 Northwestern University – Medical Sciences
Nicole Caitlyn Demchuk, *Loleta, CA*, BS, 2014, University of California-Santa Cruz; MS, 2018, Capella University (MN) – Medical Sciences
Samantha Ann Nessetti Dieckmann, *Lincoln*, BSEH, 2017, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; MMN, 2019, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Medical Sciences
Haochen Jiang, *China*, BS, 2018, China Pharmaceutical University (China) – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Chinmay Mahesh Jogdeo, *India*, Bach, 2019, Savitribai Phule Pune University (India) – Pharmaceutical Sciences
Kajal Kamra, *India*, BS, 2016, University of Delhi (India); MS, 2019, Wright State University (OH) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Alaina Claire Larson, *Bemidji, MN*, BS, 2019, Bemidji State University (MN) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Courtney Nicole Loecker, *Lincoln*, BSN, 1999, University of Nebraska Medical Center – Nursing
Jingyi Ma, *China*, BS, 2018, Sun Yat-Sen University (China) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Nghi Minh Nguyen, *Viet Nam*, BSB, 2020, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Kabita Pandey, *Nepal*, DVM, 2014, Tribhuvan University (Nepal); MS, 2018, South Dakota State University – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Kristina Pravoverov, *Stockton, CA*, BS, 2017, St. Mary's College (CA) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Jabeen Taiba, *India*, Bach, 2011, Sri Ramachandra University (India), MPH, 2017, University of Cincinnati (OH) – Medical Sciences
Heidi Maria Vieira, *Canada*, BS, 2018, University of British Columbia – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences
Chen Zhang, *China*, BS, 2018, Peking University (China) – Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences

THE COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

The planning of the 2024 December Commencement was conducted by the Chancellor's Special Functions Committee.

Marshals for the exercises, who wear red robes are:

Kelly Buchanan, MSN, College of Nursing; JoEllyn McMillan, PhD, College of Public Health; Aaron Mohs, PhD, Graduate College; Tiffany Moore, PhD, College of Nursing

SPECIAL FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

Kacie Baum
Kelly Betts, EdD
Barbara Breazeale, Chair
Liane Connelly, PhD
Tanya Custer, MS
Amanda Fishler, BS
Pranita Devaraju, BS, BA
Wallace Thoreson, PhD
Merlyn Vogt, DDS

Strategic Communications
College of Nursing - West Nebraska Division
Student Services
College of Nursing - Norfolk Division
College of Allied Health Professions
College of Pharmacy
Student Senate President
College of Medicine
College of Dentistry

GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF REGENTS

ROBERT SCHAFER, JD, *Beatrice*, Chairman

TIMOTHY F. CLARE, JD, *Lincoln*
PAUL R. KENNEY, BS, *Amherst*
ELIZABETH O'CONNOR, JD, *Omaha*
JIM SCHEER, BS, *Norfolk*
JACK STARK, PhD, *Omaha*
BARBARA WEITZ, MPA, MSW, *Omaha*
KATHY WILMOT, BS, *Beaver City*

ISHANI ADIDAM, University of Nebraska at *Omaha*
PRANITA DEVARAJU, University of Nebraska *Medical Center*
ELIZABETH HERBIN, University of Nebraska-*Lincoln*
SAM SCHROEDER, University of Nebraska at *Kearney*

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ADMINISTRATION

JEFFREY P. GOLD, MD, President
DAVID JACKSON, PhD, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost; Interim Dean, Graduate College
H. DELE DAVIES, MD, MS, MHCM, Interim Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center
STACIA L. PALSER, JD, Interim Corporation Secretary
CHARLES BICAK, PhD, Interim Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Kearney
RODNEY D. BENNETT, EdD, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
JOANNE LI, PhD, CFA, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Omaha
ANNE BARNES, MBA, Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
STACIA L. PALSER, JD, Vice President and General Counsel
MICHAEL J. BOEHM, PhD, Vice President and Harlan Vice Chancellor of Agriculture and Natural Resources
BRET R. BLACKMAN, BS, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER

H. DELE DAVIES, MD, MS, MHCM, Interim Chancellor
ANNE C. BARNES, MBA, Vice Chancellor for Business, Finance and Business Development
KENNETH W. BAYLES, PhD, Vice Chancellor for Research
BRADLEY E. BRITIGAN, MD, Dean, College of Medicine
EMILY J. GLENN, MSLS, Dean, McGroigan Health Sciences Library
ALI S. KHAN, MD, MPH, MBA, Dean, College of Public Health
CHRISTOPHER J. KRATOCHVIL, MD, Vice Chancellor for External Relations
GERARD KUGEL, DMD, MS, PhD, Dean, College of Dentistry
JAMES LINDER, MD, CEO, Nebraska Medicine
KYLE P. MEYER, PhD, MS, PT, FASAHP, Dean, College of Allied Health Professions
JANE L. MEZA, PhD, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
KAROLY MIRNICS, MD, PhD, Director, Munroe-Meyer Institute
KEITH M. OLSEN, PharmD, FCCP, FCCM, Dean, College of Pharmacy
KENDRA SCHMID, PhD, Interim Dean, Graduate Studies
LEPAINE SHARP-MCHENRY, DNP, RN, FACDONA, Dean, College of Nursing
JOANN SWEASY, PhD, Director, Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center; Director, Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The caps and gowns worn during formal academic occasions in American colleges today are the direct descendants of the everyday costumes worn in the universities of Medieval England. Each school had its own special attire so that an Oxford student could be distinguished from a Cambridge student, or a divinity student from a layman. Several costumes from European institutions are worn in today's ceremony by Medical Center faculty.

Because of the tremendous growth of American colleges and the confusion which would result if each were to adopt a distinctive costume, the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume was organized. The Bureau has established a uniform code which over 700 institutions have adopted. Harvard, practically alone, still clings to its own traditional costumes.

The distinctions of the Code are simple, there being three types of gowns and three types of hoods for bachelors, masters, and doctors, respectively. The bachelor's gown has a long pointed sleeve, whereas the master's gown has a long closed sleeve, square at the end with an arc of a circle above the bottom. The sleeve extends well below the knee, the arm coming through a slit near the elbow. The doctor's gown is characterized by a voluminous bell-shaped sleeve on which appear three velvet bars and by velvet facings or panels of the same color down the front. The navy blue gown trimmed with scarlet velvet, worn by some members of the faculty, indicates fellowship in the American College of Surgeons.

The hood is the most important and distinctive feature of the Code. The hoods for all degrees are lined with silk in the official academic color or colors of the institution conferring the degree and have an edging or trim of velvet, the color of which indicates the course or faculty to which the degree pertains. The lining is exposed when the hood is worn. The bachelor's hood is rather short with a narrow velvet edging. It is not worn by candidates for the baccalaureate but only by those upon whom this degree has been previously conferred. The master's hood is considerably longer, has a wider velvet edging, and exposes more of the lining. The doctor's hood is easily recognized since, of the three types of hoods, it has the widest velvet edging, greatest length, and fullest exposure of the lining, and has wide panels at the side.

The black mortarboard cap with tassel is worn with each type of gown. Those holding a doctor's degree are privileged to wear a gold tassel. Masters and bachelors wear black gowns and tassels that are either black or of the color appropriate to the degree in which they are being graduated. Marshals wear cardinal tassels. The members of the Board of Regents wear doctor's gowns.

Candidates receiving degrees with distinction, high distinction and highest distinction wear medallions with red ribbons, white ribbons and red and white ribbons respectively. Candidates receiving medallions have demonstrated, during the course of their study, superior academic aptitude.

Candidates receiving degrees with Academic Excellence are advanced placement students in the Colleges of Nursing and Dentistry who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement.

The colors, which may be observed at this commencement and which symbolize various courses or faculties, are as follows:

Dentistry.....	Lilac
Medicine	Green
Allied Health Professions	Green
Public Health	Salmon
Science	Golden Yellow
Philosophy	Royal Blue
Physical Therapy	Teal
Nursing	Apricot
Pharmacy.....	Olive Green

Thank
You

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Medical Center